

## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

July 8, 2009

The Honorable Barack Obama  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing to express my support of the following individuals for appointment to positions at the Department of Justice.

### **US District Court Judge Eastern District**

**Allen Cobb** is currently serving as the Senior Resident Superior Court Judge for New Hanover and Pender counties. Prior to this, Cobb served as a Resident Superior Court Judge and District Court Judge in the Fifth Court District in North Carolina. From 1978-1990 Cobb practiced as an attorney at Sperry and Cobb law firm in Wilmington, North Carolina.

**Jennifer May-Parker** is currently serving as an Assistant United States Attorney for the Eastern District of North Carolina handling criminal appellate cases. Prior to working at the US Attorney's office, May-Parker worked for the North Carolina Attorney General's Office and the New York County District Attorney's Office.

**Quentin Sumner** has been serving as the Senior Resident Superior Court Judge in Nash County since 1990. In that role, he has presided over several hundred non-jury criminal, major felony and civil cases. Prior to his work on the bench, Sumner practiced law in Nash and Wilson counties for seven years.

### **US District Court Judge Middle District**

**Catherine Eagles** has served as a Resident Superior Court Judge in Guilford County since 1993. She was elected Senior Resident Superior Court Judge in 2006. Prior to her appointment to the bench in 1993, Eagles practiced at Smith Moore Leatherwood in Greensboro, North Carolina, specializing in complex civil litigation, products liability, trade secrets, and covenants not to compete.

**Anita Earls** is the Executive Director for the Southern Coalition for Social Justice in Durham, North Carolina. For ten years, Earls worked in private practice in Charlotte, North Carolina specializing in civil rights litigation. In 1998, she was appointed by President Clinton to serve as the Deputy Assistant Attorney General in the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice.

**Edwin Wilson** currently serves as a Senior Resident Superior Court Judge in Rockingham County. Prior to being elected to the bench in 2003, Wilson practiced at Maddrey Wilson Etringer and Smith, where he was a partner. Wilson also currently serves as a Captain in the United States Army Reserve, Judge Advocate General's Corps.

#### **US Attorney Eastern District**

As I have previously discussed with the Office of the White House Counsel, it is my belief that the current U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of North Carolina, George Holding, should be allowed to complete the ongoing investigations of public officials in the state. During my conversations with the Office of the White House Counsel, there was an interest expressed by the Counsel's office to potentially appoint a separate individual to begin handling other matters not related to these investigations. Should you decide to do so, the following names are provided for your consideration.

**Benjamin David** currently serves as the District Attorney for New Hanover and Pender counties, leading 45 public servants that prosecute over 75,000 cases a year. A graduate of Wake Forest Law, David worked as an associate at Kilpatrick Stockton, LLP prior to election as the Assistant District Attorney in Wilmington in 1999.

**Hampton Dellinger** is currently a partner at the law firm of Robinson Bradshaw & Hinson. Dellinger has experience working with local, state, and federal law enforcement and public officials from his roles as Special Counsel to North Carolina's Attorney General, Deputy Attorney General, and as former Governor Mike Easley's Chief Legal Counsel.

**Thomas Walker** has been a partner at Alston and Bird, LLP concentrating on complex federal and state government investigations and white-collar defense since 2003. Prior to joining the firm, Walker served as the special counsel to North Carolina Attorney General Roy Cooper from 2001 to 2003. He was also an Assistant US Attorney in the Western District for seven years.

#### **US Attorney Middle District**

**Lee Farmer** has been the Member-Manager for the law offices of R. Lee Farmer since 2004. Prior to that, Farmer was a partner at Farmer and Watlington LLP for twenty years, gaining extensive background in civil litigation and the general practice of law. He has worked with various local, state, and federal law enforcement and public safety agencies.

**Ripley Rand** has served as a Superior Court Judge in Raleigh since 2002. Prior to that, Rand was an Assistant District Attorney in the Tenth Prosecutorial District of North Carolina directing the Domestic Violence Unit and participating on the Dangerous Offenders Task Force.

**Susan Taylor** has over thirty years of North Carolina judicial and prosecutorial experience. Since 2002, Taylor has served as a Resident Superior Court Judge in District

20A and 20B. Prior to that, for twelve years she served as a District Court Judge in the Twentieth Judicial District, and another twelve years as an Assistant District Attorney.

#### **US Attorney Western District**

**Peter Anderson** is a partner at Anderson Terpening, PLLC where he specializes in federal criminal defense, complex commercial litigation, and corporate compliance counseling. Prior to that he served as the federal prosecutor with the Environmental Crimes Section of the Department of Justice and as the Assistant US Attorney for the Western District.

**Danny Davis** has served as the Chief District Court Judge for the 30<sup>th</sup> Judicial District of North Carolina since 2004. In that role, Davis oversees five District Court Judges and thirty-one magistrates, while also preparing the court schedule for a seven-county district. Prior to this, Davis served as a District Court Judge for twenty years and was a partner at Noland, Holt, Bonfoey & Davis PA for three years.

**Anne Tompkins** is a partner at Alston and Bird, LLP concentrating on government investigations and compliance. In 2004 and 2005, Tompkins was one of four Assistant US Attorneys who were part of the initial Iraqi Regime Crimes Liaison Office in Baghdad, Iraq, under the Office of the Deputy Attorney General. She has also served as the Assistant District Attorney for Mecklenburg County.

#### **US Marshal Eastern District**

**Richard Holden** worked for the North Carolina Highway Patrol from 1969 to 2004, rising through the ranks to become the first African-American appointed Colonel, Commander of the North Carolina Highway Patrol. More recently Holden was the Assistant Vice Chancellor for Police and Public Safety at North Carolina A&T State University, where he is an alumnus.

**Scott Parker** currently serves as the Nash County Sheriff's Office Narcotics Division Commander. After twenty-two years in law enforcement, Parker has extensive experience working with Federal agencies pertaining to drug enforcement and organized crime. He is also a member of the FBI Safe Streets Gang Task Force for Nash and area counties.

**Bronnie Quinn** currently works as a Private Investigator specializing in civil cases for litigation at the law firm of Riddle & Brantley in Goldsboro, North Carolina. In 2003, Quinn retired after twenty-five years in the North Carolina State Highway Patrol where he worked in the counties of Gates, Hertford, Wayne, and Bertie. During his time at the North Carolina State Highway Patrol he provided security for the Governor and the Lt. Governor.

#### **US Marshal Middle District**

**W.R. Stafford** retired in 2004 as the Assistant Chief of Police with the City of Greensboro's Police Department after twenty-nine years of service. His career exposed him to a wide variety of departmental units including investigative, patrol, and

administration. Stafford returned to the Greensboro Police Department in 2006 to serve as a Background Investigator.

**Al Stewart** worked with the U.S. Department of State in Beirut, Lebanon as a Contingent Commander, helping to establish a new Police Mission for the Lebanese Police in 2007 and 2008. Prior to this, Stewart served two years in Iraq and accumulated thirty years of police experience with the City of Greensboro Police Department. He retired as a Captain in 2003.

**Becky Wallace** served as the U.S. Marshal for the Middle District from 1994 until mid-2003. Under her leadership the multi-agency Violent Fugitive Task Force was created, making 1,600 arrests in 1994 alone. Wallace continues to serve her community as a Reserve Deputy Sheriff in Montgomery County since the end of her appointment.

#### **US Marshal Western District**

**John McDevitt** has been a law enforcement officer in Burke County for the past thirty-three years, serving as Sheriff for the last ten. This lifetime of service to his community has earned him numerous accolades, including recognition by the United State Customs Service and the International Narcotics Enforcement Officer's Association.

**Kelly Nesbit** currently serves as the Chief Deputy U.S. Marshal in the Western District of North Carolina and has held that position since 2006. Prior to that, Nesbit served as the U.S. Marshal for this District for two years, as an Attorney General appointee. He has served in the United States Marshal Service since 1983.

**Charles Peeler** currently serves as the Deputy U.S. Marshal for the Middle District of North Carolina, a position he will have served in for nineteen years this July. Peeler has an extensive background in criminal justice, including the five years he served as a Special Agent for the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation.

I am confident that these individuals' experience and proven success in their various fields of law and public safety would be an asset to your administration. I urge you to give them every favorable consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kay R. Hagan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping "H" and "A".

Kay R. Hagan  
U.S. Senator

KRH/ch